July 16, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wagon Mound Celebrates "Bean Days" on the 2013 Labor Day weekend

By Ron Luebke, member, *Wagon Mound Bean Day Association*

Our 103rd *Bean Days* have more than ever to do and celebrate -- introducing our first annual *Bean Days Car Show*, and continuing the exciting Mud Bog Races, with a return of *The Van of Enchantment*!

It is told that In 1909 Higinio Gonzales and crew cooked beans in wash boilers behind the schoolhouse for the *Mora County Farmers Harvest Jubilee*. The next year, folks renamed this harvest gathering, and although beans are no longer grown by the tons in this area, a ranching and farming way of life continues, as does the fiesta known as *Bean Day*.

Activities include three days of rodeo, a big parade, dances, kid's games, free "open mike" musical performances in the park, and our traditional free *Beans & Barbecue Lunch* serving more than 1500 people.

This year's Grand Marshal is *Mrs. Margarita Abeyta*, and we dedicate our rodeo to the many volunteers of Bean Day. Our 2013 parade theme is: "The Santa Fe Trail." Come and join the fun.

Bean Days activities on August 30 through September 2, 2013 are many -- these are some:

- The action starts Friday night at 6:00 pm with the traditional "firehouse bean cleaning party", with a hamburger & hot dog fundraiser dinner, and a free street dance featuring the band *Bartender 4 Mayor*
- Rodeo Saturday 2:00 pm, Sunday 3:00 pm, and Monday (Labor Day) at 2:00 pm
- Food and merchandise vendors downtown Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
- Veterans Memorial service, Saturday at 9:00 am at *Wagon Mound Veterans Memorial Park* on Highway 120
- Softball tournaments on Saturday and Sunday mornings until dusk
- "Open Mike" during *Music in the Park* Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm, with performances by musicians like *Grupo Vive*, *Gonzalo*, *AJ Martinez*, *Taralynn Martinez,* and others.
- Dance to *Bartender 4 Mayor* on Saturday night from 9:00 pm to 1:00 am
- Breakfast at the firehouse, Sunday from 8:00 to 10:00 am
- Amateur horseshoe tournaments, Sunday at 10:00 am
- Car Show – our first annual Open Car Show Entries 9 am judging 12 noon Calhoun Street & Railroad Avenue
- Mud Bog Races Sunday at 11:00 am (Drivers signup at 10:00 am)
- Services on Sunday at 10:30 am at the Baptist church and Mass at 11:30 am at *Santa Clara* Catholic church
- Dance to *George Sanchez & Grupo Vive* on Sunday night from 9:00 pm to 1:00 am
- Special *Mass* at the newly renovated *Santa Clara Catholic Church* Monday at 7:30 am – everyone is welcome
- The *"Van of Enchantment",* from the New Mexico Historical Society, will be here all day Monday -- admission is free. This year's theme is, *Road Trips – Traveling the Highways of New Mexico*, featuring the era of Route 66
- Food *at the Santa Clara Parish* hall Monday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Bingo 2:00 pm, raffle ticket sales all weekend
- Parade through downtown Monday morning at 9:30 am, typically one of the largest in New Mexico.
- Kids events including street races and other games, Monday morning (right after the parade)
- Traditional FREE delicious Beans & Barbecue lunch, Monday in the Village Park from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm
- Live music in the village park Monday from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
- Raffle ticket sales by the *Bean Day Association*, with the drawing on Monday at the rodeo.

Bean Days is a time to enjoy many opportunities for participation, entertainment, and reuniting with family and friends -- or for just visiting for the first time. Pick up a *Bean Days Program* for details on all activities.

Wagon Mound is located in northeast New Mexico, on I-25 at the intersection of State Hwy 120 (387 exit). Look for "the mound that looks like a wagon and team" on the historic *Santa Fe Trail!* Camping at the *L J M Village Park* is available on a first come basis. Additional camping locations and motels are available in Springer (25 miles north), or in Las Vegas, NM (40 miles south).

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Ronald A. Luebke
575-666-2697
Website: www.BeanDay100.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/WMBeanDay E-mail: WMBeanDay@yahoo.com

###